

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, US

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN PROPOSALS ON PEACE TREATIES AND ARMS
REDUCTIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FBIS ANALYSIS OF NORTH KOREAN
PROPOSALS IN RECENT YEARS DEALING WITH A NORTH KOREAN-US
PEACE TREATY, US TROOP WITHDRAWALS AND ARMS REDUCTIONS.

2. IN MEETINGS WITH JAPANESE VISITORS OVER THE PAST FEW
WEEKS, DPRK PRESIDENT KIM IL-SONG HAS RENEWED A MARCH 1974
PROPOSAL TO REPLACE THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WITH
A DPRK-US PEACE TREATY. THE JAPAN TIMES ON 16 JULY
REPORTED THAT KIM TOLD A VISITING JAPAN SOCIALIST PARTY
DELEGATION THAT U.S. TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA MUST FIRST
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WITHDRAW, THEN THE NORTH WOULD CONCLUDE A TREATY WITH THE

UNITED STATES, AND FINALLY, BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA COULD CARRY OUT MUTUAL ARMS REDUCTION. ON THE 28TH KYODO REPORTED KIM HAD SAID MUCH THE SAME THING TO A LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) GROUP, ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCLEAR IF HE AGAIN SET U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL AS A PRECONDITION TO SIGNING A TREATY. THE JAPANESE MEDIA ALSO HAVE REPORTED A CLAIM BY LDP DIETMAN TOKUMA UTSUNOMIYA THAT KIM TOLD HIM THE NORTH IS PREPARED TO CONCLUDE A PEACE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES. KIM'S REMARKS HAVE NOT BEEN RE-

PORTED IN DPRK MEDIA, AND NORTH KOREAN PROPAGANDA IN RECENT WEEKS HAS NOT GIVEN ANY INCREASED ATTENTION TO THE TREATY PROPOSAL.

3. PEACE TREATY: THE ORIGINAL NORTH KOREAN OFFER FOR A PEACE TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES CAME IN A 25 MARCH 1974 SPEECH BY FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM, IN A PROPOSAL WHICH MARKED A DEPARTURE FROM THE NORTH'S PREVIOUS STAND THAT THE ARMISTICE BE REPLACED BY A PEACE TREATY BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. EXPLAINING THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PAK GOVERNMENT FOR A NORTH-SOUTH TREATY WERE "MEANINGLESS," THE FOREIGN MINISTER CLAIMED THAT PYONGYANG HAD THEREFORE DECIDED THAT THE QUESTION HAD TO BE SOLVED " BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED WHICH HOLD REAL POWER TO GUARANTEE IT." HO TAM DID NOT SPECIFY THAT U.S. FORCES HAD TO BE WITHDRAWN BEFORE AN AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED, AND ONE OF THE POINTS HE PROPOSED FOR THE TREATY, THAT FOREIGN TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA UNDER THE UN FLAG BE WITHDRAWN "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," SUGGESTS U.S. WITHDRAWAL WAS NOT A PRECONDITION. SUCH AN INTERPRETATION WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH DPRK POLICY SINCE JANUARY 1972 WHEN, IN AN INTERVIEW WITH YOMIURI WHICH WAS CARRIED BY KCNA, KIM IL-SONG SUGGESTED THAT U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL WAS NO LONGER A PRECONDITION TO SIGNING A NORTH-SOUTH PEACE TREATY.

4. MUTUAL ARMS REDUCTION: PYONGYANG'S PROPOSALS FOR MUTUAL ARMS REDUCTIONS ARE LONGSTANDING. THE NORTH'S STANDARD LINE IN RECENT YEARS HAS BEEN THAT TROOP STRENGTH ON EACH SIDE BE CUT TO 100,000 OR LESS, "UNDER CONDITION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT U.S. TROOPS WITHDRAW." IN A LETTER SENT TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN APRIL 1973, THE SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCED THAT IF U.S. FORCES PULLED OUT, THE NORTH WAS "WILLING TO REDUCE OUR ARMY STRENGTH TO 200,000 OR LESS OF OUR OWN ACCORD."

5. OTHER PROPOSALS: ON 8 NOVEMBER 1974, FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM OFFERED TO REPLACE THE CURRENT MILITARY ARMISTICE

COMMISSION WITH A JOINT NORTH-SOUTH MILITARY COMMISSION
AND TO BEGIN BILATERAL MILITARY TALKS TO DISCUSS BOTH
SIDES' "ASSUMING THE OBLIGATION OF FULFILLING THE MAJOR
PROVISIONS OF THE ARMISTICE." HO DID NOT MAKE CLEAR
WHETHER SUCH TALKS COULD BE HELD WITH THE PAK GOVERNMENT
OR ONLY WITH A SUCCESSOR REGIME. HE ALSO DID NOT STATE
WHETHER U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL WAS A PRECONDITION. IN A
25 NOVEMBER 1974 SPEECH THE DPRK'S CHIEF DELEGATE TO THE UN
GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADDED TO HO TAM'S PROPOSAL AN OFFER TO
MAINTAIN THE "PRESENT NEUTRAL NATIONS SUPERVISORY COM-
MISSION...WITH NEW NECESSARY FUNCTIONS PENDING THE CONCLU-

SION OF A PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH," AN
OFFER NOT REPEATED IN SUBSEQUENT DPRK PROPAGANDA. KISSINGER

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